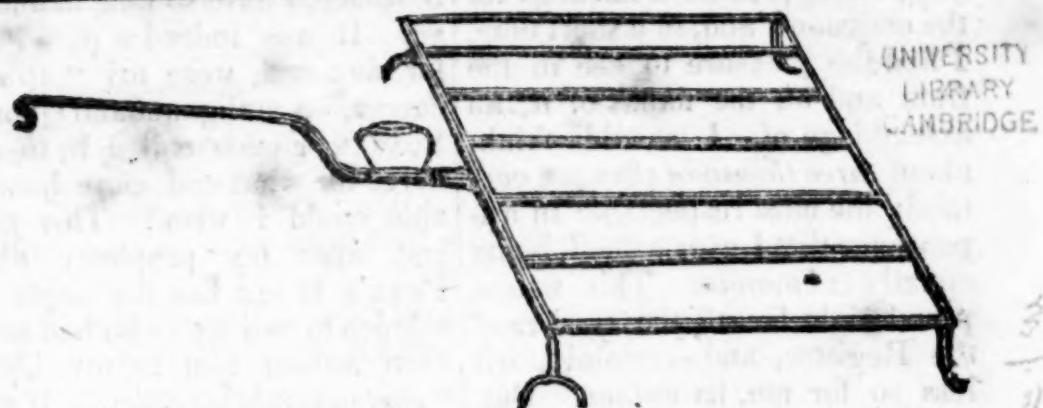


COBBETT'S WEEKLY POLITICAL REGISTER.

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MEETING
AT THE
FREEMASON'S TAVERN,
*For the adopting of measures,
having for object the obtaining
of a seat in Parliament for
Mr. Cobbett.*

Kensington, 9th Feb. 1826.

YESTERDAY was the day, appointed by SIR THOMAS BEEVOR, for the holding of this Meeting, the hour for which was *one o'clock*. A quarter of an hour before the time, Sir Thomas Beevor and I went to the Freemason's Tavern; but, we now found, that, in engaging the place of assembling, we had been too humble in our calculation as to the number of persons that would be present. We found the room, which contained about *three hundred persons*, full, even to danger of producing real hurt to the gentlemen assembled. The staircase and passages had about as many more

on and in them, besides the persons who filled a small room, near to the large room.

After making a fruitless effort to get into the large room, and to open the way for our Chairman, I, not seeing any chance of obtaining a room *any where*, to which to adjourn, and that room sufficient to hold a quarter part of the people who would wish to enter it, and, being anxious to put an end to all the risks of confusion; these being my thoughts on the occasion, I gave it as my opinion, that the Meeting should be put off to another time; but, I found every other person of a different opinion; and, indeed, when it was pointed out to me what a disappointment this would be to those gentlemen, *who had come expressly from different parts of the country*, I saw, at once, that, at all hazards, the Meeting ought to be held *then*, somewhere or other.

It was instantly proposed to adjourn to *Lincoln's Inn Fields*, and to the north-west corner of that Square we went, where, somebody having impressed an

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[ENTERED AT STATIONERS' HALL.]

empty coal-wagon into the service, that became a hustings for the occasion; and, in a short time, I had the pleasure to see in the front and on the flanks of it, an assemblage of, I should think, about *three thousand* persons, certainly the most respectable in appearance that I ever beheld, being equally numerous. This was a proud sight for all the *readers* of the Register, and, certainly, not less so for me, its *author*. But, the most pleasing reflection, excited by the sight of this assemblage, was, that the *principles*, which I have so long been endeavouring to implant, have taken deep and firm hold of the minds of a large part of the people; and, which gave me singular satisfaction, I beheld the evidence of *triumph* in the faces of great numbers of *young men*; for, after all, it is *on them* that the fate of the country must finally rest. The persons of this description seemed particularly desirous of showing me marks of respect; they took my feet on their hands, and put me upon the wagon as if my weight had been that of a feather; they made a step of their hands for me to descend from the wagon; they locked themselves into ranks to conduct me back to the Tavern; and they tendered me their honest hands to shake, just as had been done by the hearty and zealous people of Norfolk, when we carried that PETITION, which has been so much abused, but which must, at last, be acted upon, or this kingdom must become a scene of universal desolation.

I mention these circumstances, partly because they do me honour, but, more particularly, for the stronger reason, that they indicate a triumph of those principles, which,

amidst such a storm of obloquy and reproach, I have so long maintained. It was indeed a proud day for me; and, were my "*strange career*," as malignant and ignorant SCARLETT once called it, to end here, for what end more honourable could I wish? This man, just after my prophecy about PEEL'S BILL, had the empty insolence to call me (who had never even *named* him in my life) a "*contemptible scribbler*." If such a man were sensible to the workings of shame, what must be his feelings NOW!

The Meeting, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, was as *orderly*, and, indeed, a great deal more so, than are the assemblies in another place which I do not care now to name. Sir THOMAS BEEVOR opened the business of the day in a manner which was highly applauded by the Meeting, and in a manner which did him the highest honour. COLONEL JOHNSTONE, one of the Members of Parliament for the town of Boston, proposed the Resolutions, and, in doing this, he evinced that spirit and that honesty which has distinguished the whole of his conduct, since he has been a Member of Parliament. There will be found below, a report of the proceedings of the day, taken from the "*Morning Chronicle*" of this morning; I shall not, therefore, make any attempt to report the speeches of any of us; but I shall here insert the RESOLUTIONS to which the Meeting unanimously agreed, because my main object at present is, to add to those Resolutions such observations as appear to be necessary, in order to ensure the best chance of giving effect to this undertaking.

Resolved, 1. That it is the opinion of this Meeting, that it would be beneficial to the country if Mr. Cobbett were a Member of the Commons' House of Parliament; and that it is, therefore, the opinion of this Meeting, that there ought to be raised by public subscription a sum of money sufficient for defraying any expenses that may become necessary for the accomplishment of that object.

2. That Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart., be the Treasurer of such subscription.

3. That the subscriptions be paid to the Treasurer, or to a person authorized by him to receive subscriptions, at the Office of the Register, No. 183, Fleet-street, London.

4. That each subscriber shall, at the time of paying his subscription, receive a receipt for the same, in the following form:—"Received of A. B. "the sum of as "a subscription towards defraying "any expenses that may arise from "any steps that may be taken for "the purpose of obtaining a return "of Mr. Cobbett to serve in parliament."

5. That, if it should so happen that there be not raised a sum sufficient to warrant an attempt to effect the object in view, then, in the space of ten days after the close of the next general election, each and every subscriber shall, upon presenting, or causing to be presented, his aforesaid receipt to the Treasurer, or other person appointed for the purpose, receive the whole amount of the sum stated in the said receipt, without any deduction whatsoever.

6. That if any attempt be made, and fail, or if it succeed; and if, in either case, there be a *surplus* remaining in the hands of the Treasurer, then the whole of such surplus shall, at the end of fifty days after the close of the next general election, be, in the manner above-mentioned, returned to the sub-

scribers, in proportion to the sums that they may respectively have subscribed: and, in order that the subscribers may be duly apprized of the share of surplus due to each, the Committee (here below named) shall cause notice to be publicly given of the amount of such surplus, and of the time for repaying it to the subscribers, upon their producing their afore-mentioned receipts. But, in order that there may be a limit to the business of the Committee and the Treasurer, it is understood that, in this case, as well as in that mentioned in Resolution 5, if the subscriber do not make his demand within *three months*, or ninety-three days, after the times above specified, the Committee shall be at liberty to dispose of the unclaimed subscriptions in that way which they may deem most proper, consulting, in this respect, as far as may be practicable, the wishes of the subscribers.

7. That each and every subscriber may subscribe in his own name, in any other name, or under any motto or designation that he may choose, and that his receipt, when produced (either by him or by any holder of it) shall be as valid as if given to him under his own name.

8. That Sir Thomas Beevor, Bart., Joseph Martin, Esq., of Lincoln's Inn, Peter Walker, Esq., of Worth, Sussex, William Withers, jun. Esq., of Holt, Norfolk, and William Palmer, Esq., of Bollitree, Herefordshire, be a Committee for deciding upon, and for carrying into execution all the measures necessary for effecting the several purposes above-mentioned, and that their order, or that of any three of them, shall be, to the Treasurer, his sufficient warrant for disposing of any sums of money, that he may receive on account of the said subscription.

As far as relates to the collections made at No. 183. Fleet-street, or paid to Sir Thomas Beevor himself in person, the

Resolutions themselves are particular enough. But, there is another mode of subscribing ; I mean by persons in the country, which requires some little explanation. As far as friends and neighbours may agree amongst themselves to send up subscriptions, ANY ONE can make collections from any number, and, upon forwarding the collection to Fleet-street, can receive one receipt for the whole ; but, though there will be, and though, indeed, there already are, some subscriptions which I ought to call large, still success must mainly depend upon *numerous small ones*. I suggest, therefore, to such gentlemen, in different parts of the country, as may deem it prudent and proper to stand forward as the receivers of subscriptions ; I suggest to them to propose so to do, and to make the proposition by letter addressed to Sir THOMAS BEEVOR, who is, as they will perceive, Chairman of the Committee, such letter being addressed to him at No. 183, Fleet-street, *postage paid*. When the Committee has received the letter, they will, after due and satisfactory inquiry, notify, in the Register, that the party notified in the Register has authority to collect subscriptions. By these means numerous small sums, especially in large towns, may be collected. The collector would receive a receipt for every sum that he would pay in or cause to be paid in at Fleet-street ; and the publicity which would be given, at last, to the account of the manner in which the money has been disposed of, or of the cause of its not having been disposed of at all, or only in part, would enable every subscriber to

know what sum he ought to receive back.

I am very well aware that this is suggesting to people to take upon themselves *a great deal of trouble* ; but then we are to recollect, that we can have few things which we can wish for without a little trouble. What trouble have I not taken myself ? What labours have I not performed ? What risks have I not run ? What perils have I not encountered ; aye, and a numerous family along with me ? And, if I had preferred ease to labour ; if I had preferred interest to duty ; how rich might I not have been ; and in what complete ignorance might not the country have been with regard to the cause of its calamities. Whatever else men may say of me ; whatever else they may even think of me ; there is not a man in the kingdom who will look another man in the face and say, that I might not have wallowed in wealth ; that I might not have been covered with what the world calls honours, if I had chosen to aid in the work of delusion and oppression, instead of having, without the exception of one single act of my life, endeavoured to dissipate the former and to put an end to or mitigate the latter. It is agreed, amongst all descriptions of men, that I possess extraordinary powers ; that I wield a pen more powerful than that of any other man now living in England. This is acknowledged by all. I have wielded it by turns, against many descriptions of men ; but in no one single instance can I be charged as having wielded it for the purpose of furthering my own interest ; and truth must further declare of me

that I have uniformly, that I have unceasingly, that I have without scarcely a week of intermission, been the zealous, the strenuous and ardent advocate of that class of the community, from whom I never could and never can by any possibility receive, not only any sort of reward, but, such is their dispersed, scattered and forlorn situation, scarcely any mark or any expression of their gratitude. Still, however, I must say, as for them, that they have always shown their gratitude when they had the power of doing it. The country will bear me witness, my numerous volumes will record the fact, that if I had been a hedger and a ditcher, that if I had had no other object in life than that of adding an ounce of bread to my day's meal, I could not have been more zealous, more indefatigable than I have been in the cause of that now oppressed class who subsist by their labour. What prevented me, starting at the same moment, with Mr. WILLIAM HUSKISSON, springing as I did, from a source full as illustrious as his; what prevented me from pursuing the same smooth and flowery path? What prevented me from surpassing him on that path? What prevented me from being as rich and as powerful as he at this moment? Not the want of ambition; not the want of a consciousness of my powers; not the want of that love of wealth, which to a certain degree, is natural and even laudable; not, all who know me will bear me witness, want of anxiety for the well-being of those dependant upon me; no: but the want of a desire to be rich and powerful surpassing the love of honest fame, and my most deep-

rooted attachment to my country. I chose the path strewed with thorns: I felt those thorns from the outset: I was not an ignorant man: my choice did not arise from my not perceiving the consequences of it: I knew what I should have to endure: but I also knew that, in the *result*, I should have that heartfelt satisfaction; aye, and that sort of honour, too, which riches and power never can give. Mr. HUSKISSON has his country-seat, his palace in London, his swarms of hangers-on, his *salary* in place, his *pension* out of place, and his wife a pension in the case of his death; but, all the gold and silver, *even all* that the mad speculators expect to drain from the mines of Peru and Mexico, brought in wagons, and lining the road from Hyde-Park Corner to Hammersmith, would not induce me to exchange the name of WILLIAM COBBETT for that of WILLIAM HUSKISSON; and whatever else men may say of me, in this I am convinced they will say I am sincere.

Now, considering what trouble I have had, what losses of all sorts I have had to endure, and that, too, without ever having been diverted one single moment from my purpose; is it too much to ask of those, who think all this of me which I have said of myself, to take some little trouble in order to ensure me, at last, the barren reward of a seat in that Assembly, in which I ought to have been placed full twenty years ago? Putting it even on this footing; this weakest footing of a gratification to me, do I ask too much, if I ask my own readers to take the very little trouble, to make the very trifling sacrifice, which would

Resolutions themselves are partly what sum we ought to raise; now be necessary to effect the object of the Meeting of yesterday? Hundreds of men, I might say five hundred, have declared to me, either by letter, verbally, or by message, that I have been the sole cause of saving them and their families from ruin. Perhaps, ten shillings upon every hundred pounds that I have been the cause of their now possessing, would be a sum far beyond what could possibly be wanted upon this occasion. I will not, therefore, believe it to be necessary to say another word upon that subject; except merely to say, that men ought not to be discouraged from subscribing on account of the smallness of the sum which they can with convenience spare for the purpose.

At what time the general election will take place, nobody can say. The Ministers themselves can, perhaps, hardly guess at it. It may, however, take place in a couple of months from this time. Therefore, prudence dictates that whatever is done, be done with all convenient speed, for it would be ridiculous, indeed, for us to see the election come on when we were only half prepared for it. It appears to me, that, in almost every neighbourhood where the Register is ever read, a small sum might be collected. The smallness of the sum ought never to discourage any body. Large sums are seldom raised, except by the means of small ones; and this is a fact that every one should bear in mind. There are few gentlemen in the country who will not have business in London in the course of a month or six weeks. If not, they have some friend or neighbour coming to London. If nei-

ther of these, a letter covers a rag; and here the rag would be pretty quickly changed into gold. That old remark, that what is *every body's* business is *nobody's business*, is but too apt to be verified in cases like this; but men should say on the contrary; every man should say to himself, the success of the undertaking depends solely UPON ME. Let every friend but say this, and the business is done.

I have only to add, that I have no desire that one single farthing of this money should ever come into my pocket. The public would justly blame me, if I were to expend my own money in such an enterprise. According to my notions of the duty of a husband and a father, my earnings do not belong exclusively to me; and though there is not one of those to whom they do belong who would not cheerfully make any sacrifice for the accomplishment of this object, it is my duty to prevent such sacrifice from being made. They have all suffered enough, and they have suffered without repining. But, while it is my duty to preserve what little I have, I have not the smallest desire to profit, in any way whatever, directly or indirectly, from this subscription. The resolutions provide most completely for the due appropriation of the money. The Committee are responsible for that appropriation. They are all men of the fairest character, and men of solid landed estates. Therefore, there can be no doubt upon this score. SIR THOMAS BEEVOA, who is the Treasurer, authorizes Mr. JOHN DEAN, at No. 183, Fleet-street, to receive subscriptions, and to give receipts in his name; and for Mr.

DEAN's proceedings, SIR THOMAS is responsible. It would be very mortifying to me if the subscription were insufficient to warrant an attempt to be made ; but it would be much more mortifying to me to have suffered this opportunity to pass, without doing every thing that lay in my power to get myself put upon the same floor with those men who have so long been deluding and ruining the nation. Not to have made this attempt, and to have made it in earnest, too, would have argued that, after all my talk, I felt myself incompetent to face these men. I feel myself, on the contrary, quite competent to do it ; and I am further perfectly satisfied, that, upon that floor I cannot be, without assisting to produce some great and salutary change, in one shape or other.

I cannot conclude this article without expressing, what is deeply felt by the public, admiration at the conduct of SIR THOMAS BEEVOR and COLONEL JOHNSTONE. They have done that which no other two men in their situations in life would have been found to do ; and I flatter myself that the day is not very distant when many others will wish that they had had the spirit to do the same. Short-sighted mortals as we are, we seldom look far before our noses. We think about that which will affect us to-morrow, and not about that which will affect us this day seven years. If I had acted thus, I might now have been a very rich and a most insignificant mortal. If I had been deterred from doing my duty by the railings and bellows of the ignorant and the corrupt, I should now have been either fattening like a hog, in

obscurity, or showing myself about in the streets as a mere carcass, the value of which would have been estimated by my clothes.

What are we to think of those landed gentlemen, who admire, who applaud the spirit of SIR THOMAS BEEVOR, and yet who are not found at his back ? Why, we are to think not that they are corrupt, or, in a personal sense, cowardly men, but we are to think of them as of men trammelled by an accursed system, that bereaves even wealth of independence ; that bereaves courage of the power of striking and even of self-defence ; that takes from the mind every spark of conscious dignity, and that makes him that should be the lord truckle to him that should be the lackey. It is impossible to look, without indignation, at the group who now wield the destinies of England ; who, amidst a mass of blunders that have covered a country with misery, sit there, perked up like schoolmasters and their ushers, while the owners of the soil, the natural magistrates of the country, the guardians of its happiness and its honour, stand before them like a set of school-boys, silently listening to their pompous imbecility, and patiently waiting for their fate at their hands.

Wm. COBBETT.

MEETING
TO BRING MR. COBBETT
INTO PARLIAMENT.

A considerable number of persons assembled yesterday in one of the Committee-Rooms at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen

Street, for the purpose of concerting the means of putting Mr. Cobbett into the House of Commons.

The advertisement in this, and some other daily Papers, announced the Meeting to be held at one o'clock, but Sir Thomas B. Beevor, who first suggested the proceedings, having in a letter, published in *Cobbett's Register*, particularly requested those who were interested in his object to be punctual to the hour, the room was most oppressively crowded ten minutes before the time appointed. One o'clock, however, passed away without any occupation of the Chair, and even at half-past one there was no appearance of the Baronet, or his Nominee. During that interval, the company, composed, for the greater part, of respectable tradesmen and farmers, amused themselves by listening to the harangues of a Mr. Burridge, a frequent Petitioner to the House of Commons, and who has been for some time pressing upon the attention of Government his opinions on the subject of the Dry Rot in the Navy. When that Gentleman had vainly exerted the powers of his eloquence, in an attempt to persuade the meeting to spend their time usefully and agreeably, in voting a preliminary Resolution upon the subject of Parliamentary Reform; and when another had as vainly tried to soothe the rising symptoms of discontent and disappointment, by sagely reminding the company of the patience and trials of Job,

Mr. Henry Hunt, amidst loud cries of "Cobbett, Cobbett," begged to remind the meeting, that as they had been called toge-

ther by Sir Thos. Beevor—with-out him they could not legally act. He would suggest, that a messenger be sent with a written communication to Sir Thomas, if he was in the house, informing him that the Gentlemen assembled had been waiting more than an hour for his appearance, and begg-ing to know what course they were to pursue. [Several persons now cried out that they saw Sir Thomas Beevor and Mr. Cobbett below in the Court-yard.]

In compliance with this suggestion, a Mr. Knowles, who had been making himself very conspicuous at the Committee-table, produced the following pithy epistle—"Sir Thomas B. Beevor and Mr. William Cobbett—You ought to be here, and you are not here—here we are in anticipation [great laughter]."—This *morceau* having been read with great self-satisfaction by its composer, was despatched amidst triumphant cheers to the Honourable Baronet and his friend. An answer having been waited for some time, and the numbers of the Meeting still continuing to increase, the cry of "Adjourn! Adjourn!" became very general. One man, who had been very noisy and trouble-some, proposed that each person should pay one shilling to procure admittance to the Freemasons' Hall.—"Then down with your *bob!*" shouted one of the crowd [great laughter]. This plain but somewhat forcible demand, strange to say, had the effect of silencing one of the most vehement of the proposed subscribers to the Brough-purchasing Fund.

Mr. Hunt now again addressed himself to the assembly, and ob-served, he had just received an

intimation that the Meeting was adjourned to Lincoln's-Inn-fields. This could not be. He did not know so much about Public Meetings now as he once did, but he recollects very well that there was a law rendering it penal to hold a Meeting in the open air without the authority of the Sheriff, and he was by no means sure that this law had been repealed [cries of "It has expired."]—He was not quite sure of that; but without considering that question, they had been called together by Sir Thomas Beevor for a specific purpose, and without his authority they were not at liberty to move. He could not, however, avoid observing, that the conduct pursued to the Meeting was highly negligent and disrespectful. There they had been since one o'clock waiting for a person, who now sent to say they might follow him to Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. He, for his part, did not feel himself justified in doing so, without seeing the person who called them together, or, at all events, receiving a note under his own hand; and he hoped the Meeting would view the matter in the same light. If any body knew this Sir Thomas, he begged that he would go to him and tell him the state of the case. This Sir Thomas was quite unknown to him—a new man, he believed—at least he had never heard of him twice in his life before.

A Mr. Butler said, he understood Sir Thomas Beevor and Mr. Cobbett were gone down stairs, but whether to make arrangements for passing through the crowd to the Chair, or for the purpose of removing to a larger room, he knew not.

No further communication arriving from Sir Thomas or Mr. Cobbett, and the Meeting becoming very impatient,

Mr. Hunt again addressed them. They had, it was true, been told that Sir Thomas was gone to Lincoln's-Inn-fields, but he submitted to the Meeting, whether they were to act upon a perhaps unauthorized assertion of that kind, when, perhaps, the very next message might bring them word that he was gone on to Smithfield [laughter]. The question was now, whether they were to stop there or not, and that he submitted could only be put from the Chair.—They are gone to drink roasted corn, said a person in the crowd [shouts of laughter].

Mr. Hunt continued: All he knew was, that they should not stay roasting there any longer [continued laughter]; and that they might know what was to be done regularly and legally. Although he himself was not at present on terms with Mr. Cobbett, he should take the liberty of moving that Mr. Budd, a highly respectable gentleman of Newbury, and a friend of Mr. Cobbett and Sir Thomas Beevor, do take the Chair.

The proposition was immediately seconded, and Mr. Budd called to the Chair by acclamation.

Mr. Budd hoped they would excuse the liberty he was about to take, after they had so kindly called him to the Chair, but he must beg that they would permit another person to occupy it, who was much better qualified to forward the object they had in view. He proposed that Mr. Cobbett's son should take his place, for the pur-

pose of explaining why his father had not been present to meet those who so kindly interested themselves in his cause [hear, hear!]

Mr. John Cobbett then assumed the Chair, amidst considerable cheering. He observed, that he had only consented to appear before them, that he might assure them his father had used every effort in his power to get into the room, but found it impossible, from the very crowded state of the entrance and staircase [strong marks of disapprobation.] When his father and Sir Thomas were told that the room was insufficient to contain the company assembled, they had used every effort to procure another. First, they had applied for the use of the great room at the Crown and Anchor, in the Strand; but that, they were informed, was engaged for the dinner of a Society of Publicans; then they had requested to be allowed to move into the hall below, but that could not be let without the permission of the Duke of Sussex, as Grand Master of the Lodge of Freemasons; and, after every other means failed, rather than, by postponing the proceedings to a future day, disappoint the friends who had so kindly assembled from all parts of the town, as well as those who were collected from the country, they had finally determined to have a Meeting in the open air, and for that purpose they had hired a wagon, in which they had at that moment commenced the business of the day in Lincoln's-Inn-fields [hissing, and cries of "that is not true."]

Mr. Hunt would venture to say, that if any man in that room had been told Sir Thomas Beevor and

Mr. Cobbett wished to pass to their seats, he would most readily have made room for them. It had not been known to the room that they had even presented themselves for admittance.

Mr. John Cobbett said, their names had not only been mentioned, but vociferated on the staircase [cries of "It is not true, it's all a sham."]

Mr. Hunt again observed, that they should do nothing without Sir T. Beevor. All they could do, was to pledge themselves that no obstacle should be interposed to the entrance of Sir Thomas and his friends, whenever they presented themselves, and to send a message to them, stating that the Meeting assembled there, by his own desire, waited his appearance. He was not a small man himself, but he would say that, in his opinion, any man of twice his size might have made his way to the table at any time since he entered the room [hear, hear!]. The Gentleman (Mr. Budd) he had proposed to the Chair, for the purpose of communicating the sentiments of the Company upon that point, was an Attorney, and Clerk of the Peace for Berkshire. He was averse to removal to Lincoln's-Inn-fields, and pressed his motion to send a message to Sir Thomas Beevor.

Mr. Butler agreed with *Mr. Hunt* that nothing could be done upon a question of adjournment until they had elected a Chairman. Sir T. Beevor had, therefore, no right to send them word that he had removed the meeting elsewhere, until he had taken the Chair there, and explained his reasons for that alteration. He however admired, in common with

many others, the principles and distinguished talent of Mr. Cobbett; and that nothing might occur to impede the great object for which they were assembled, he should now move, as there was a Chairman, and as an Amendment, that they do adjourn to Lincoln's-Inn-fields.

Mr. Butt seconded the Amendment.

The Amendment was put and negatived by a great majority.

Mr. Hunt's motion was then carried with shouts of applause, and Mr. John Cobbett deputed to inform Sir Thomas Beevor that the Meeting waited his presence.

While Mr. J. Cobbett was absent on this duty, a stranger observed that Mr. Cobbett's cart was already surrounded by such a dense mass, it would be next to impossible for any one to penetrate so far as to hold conversation with him.

Mr. J. Cobbett, upon his return, resumed his place, as Chairman, and informed the Meeting, in answer to their message, that he had seen Sir Thomas Beevor, and was desired by him to say, that although he was exceedingly sorry for their disappointment, he really had not been able to pass through the crowd assembled at the door [cries of "that is not true."]. He had in consequence been obliged to carry the business into the open air, and as a considerable body of the friends of Mr. Cobbett were assembled, Colonel Johnstone had proposed Resolutions for their adoption, and Mr. Peter Walker was at that moment seconding them [hisses]. There had been, he was given to understand, a complete physical impossibility of entering the

apartment they were now in [hisses].

Mr. Hunt said, that after having thus received an answer from authority, he would move, "That the meeting do adjourn to Lincoln's-Inn-fields."

A Gentleman, whose name we could not learn, expressed a strong desire, before they adjourned, to pass a vote of censure upon Sir Thomas Beevor and Mr. Cobbett. Their conduct had been a gross insult to those who had assembled to do them honour.

Mr. John Cobbett said, he would reject, with scorn and contempt, an effort to make him the instrument of passing a vote of censure on his own father; he could only pardon the person who proposed it because he believed him to be insane.

The motion was then carried; and those of the Meeting who had till now remained in the room, departed for Lincoln's-Inn-fields.

LINCOLN'S-INN-FIELDS.

After Sir Thomas Beevor and Mr. Cobbett had made an ineffectual effort to obtain admission into the room in the Freemasons' Tavern, in which the Meeting was convened, Sir Thomas Beevor, at the request of several persons, who surrounded him on the staircase, adjourned the Meeting to Lincoln's-Inn-Fields. Accordingly, they repaired thither; a large wagon was procured, which served the purpose of a temporary hustings. Sir Thomas Beevor, Mr. Cobbett, and two or three friends, who accompanied them, succeeded in obtaining places in this wagon. The greater part of the wagon, which was placed in the

north-west angle of Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, was, however, filled by those persons of the crowd, who were sufficiently on the alert to secure places for themselves in the general scramble. The concourse of persons, which was at first considerable, was greatly increased by the passengers, who were attracted by curiosity; and, before the close of the Meeting, the attendance assumed quite a respectable appearance, by reason of the numerous carriages and other Aristocratic vehicles, which drove up to witness the proceedings of the motley group in the wagon. A chair was procured for Sir Thomas Beevor, which was placed in the well of the wagon; Colonel Johnstone, Mr. Cobbett, Mr. Walker, &c., stood around him.

Sir Thomas Beevor regretted that the impossibility of obtaining entrance into the room appointed for the meeting had rendered an adjournment to that place necessary. He should make no apology for the situation he had placed himself in that day; it was a vulgar proverb, but like most proverbs it contained a great deal of truth, that "What is every body's business is nobody's business;" and this was the only possible cause he could imagine why some one better known, some one of more extensive influence than he could lay claim to, had not stepped forward long ago to do that which he came to do that day. His situation was one of considerable difficulty; whatever might be his zeal, whatever might be his sincerity, in the cause in which he was engaged, (and in those two qualifications he would yield to no man

living) still the habits of a man living entirely in the country, and passing his time chiefly in the usual occupations of a country life, were not those calculated to make him the fittest person for conducting an affair of so much importance as the present. However, there he was, ready to perform his duty—ready to render his services in the cause in any way they might be pleased to command them, as far as in him lay. At the same time, there were two circumstances which considerably relieved the weight of the task he had taken on himself; one of these was the highly flattering reception his late address to the public had met with, as evinced by the numerous letters which he had received from highly respectable and respected individuals in all parts of the country; the other arose from the subject he had to deal with. He was not introducing to their notice a new man—a man unknown, untried. Mr. Cobbett was known to them all—he was known to the country at large. His sentiments had long been published—they continued to be published week after week.—There they stood recorded under his own hand. With regard to Mr. Cobbett's ability—his competency to fill the situation in which it was proposed to place him, there was no need to go far for proofs of that. He would not go far. He would go back beyond his own recollection (and his recollection, he was happy to say, did not reach so far back as some of his friends around him had done him the honour to suppose). However, it would reach back far enough for the present purpose. He would content him-

self with asking them one short question : Had Mr. Cobbett's predictions on the consequences of tampering with the currency been fulfilled, or had they not ?—They had been fulfilled, and that fulfilment proved Mr. Cobbett's competency, and at the same time the utter incapacity and incompetency of the men who at present hold the reins of Government. One word on his connexion with Mr. Cobbett. He first became a reader of Mr. Cobbett's works some little time after his (Mr. C.'s) return from America, after the passing of Mr. Peel's Bill. He soon became convinced of the truth of his doctrine, and that he was the only writer who thoroughly understood the subject. Within a couple of years from that time he came into possession of an estate —came to a property as it is called, but which in its then state was anything but a *property* to him. He found it necessary to take decisive steps, and in taking those steps he was influenced by opinions he had formed from the perusal of Mr. Cobbett's writings. He was aware that it would be considered by some a piece of bad taste in him thus to obtrude his private affairs upon a public assembly, but it was a bare act of justice to Mr. C. and to those friends who had stood by him through evil report and good report, thus publicly to state that it was to him he owed his present independent situation in life—to him that he and his family owed the comforts they at present enjoyed. He should be a monster of ingratitude if he spared either time, trouble, or expense, as far as his means would allow, to place Mr. C. in that situation in which

he might be most extensively useful, and to which his talents and integrity so justly entitled him. Sir Thomas concluded by stating that the Meeting had been convened for the purpose of transacting business—for acting rather than talking. He therefore requested gentlemen who might have occasion to address the assembly, to be brief, and to stick close to the purpose of the Meeting.

Colonel Johnstone, M.P., rose to propose the Resolutions which had been prepared by the Committee. He was induced to take a part in the present proceedings, from a conviction of the propriety of Mr. Cobbett's opinions and principles. So much so, indeed, that he would be glad to see him go down to Parliament that very night, and take his place there instead of himself [Applause]. At the same time, if he got into Parliament, he (Colonel Johnstone) would recommend him to confine himself to the question of the Currency, as on that he was invulnerable.

The Resolutions were then read.

[See the Resolutions, in page 389.]

Mr. Walker rose to second the Resolutions in the absence of Mr. Budd, a most respectable Gentleman, who was expected to attend, to take upon him the office of doing so. For Mr. Cobbett, he (Mr. W.) had long entertained sentiments of respect and friendship. All that he knew of him induced him the more to admire him. It was true he had been imprisoned; but imprisoned for what?—for exposing the cruelty of flogging English Local Militia, under a guard of German bay-

onets. There was no Englishman who would not be proud to have acted as he had done on that occasion [hear, hear, hear!] If there was any other ground on which it was necessary to establish his claim to their support, it would be found in the correct principles he had adopted with regard to the currency, which exposed the conduct of Ministers, who were playing fast and loose with it [hear, hear!] He had exposed it already in writing, and shewed the wrong course they were pursuing ; but the Ministers might plead ignorance of his writings, whereas if he were in the House, and had an opportunity of speaking to them there, the same plea would not hold good as an excuse, and they could no longer pretend ignorance [hear, hear!]-The Resolutions were then put from the Chair, and unanimously carried by a show of hands.

Mr. Cobbett was then loudly called for. He came forward, and was received with considerable applause. After having apologized to the Meeting for keeping on his hat, in consequence of a severe cold under which he laboured, he said that he would for the same reason that he had asked permission to keep on his hat—that of a severe cold—considerably shorten the address which he had intended to offer. He attended the ~~Meeting~~^{Meeting} that day in consequence of Sir Thomas Beevor having notified that he (Mr. Cobbett) would be present to state the grounds upon which he presented himself to the public. In compliance with this notification, he appeared to lay before them

the pretensions which he had to entitle him to their support in placing him in Parliament. Mock modesty was as despicable a quality as could be played off in the world. Men of real modesty and virtue, like women of real virtue, never condescended to play off so vile a trick [hear, hear!] Neither could he condescend to do so [applause and laughter]. He would be unworthy of their support and suffrages ; he would be undeserving the support of Sir Thomas Beevor, who had so generously come forward on this occasion ; it would be insolence in him to have come forward at all, if he was not conscious that he possessed the means of serving the country in Parliament. It was because he was convinced that he possessed the means of doing so, that he consented to tender his services to them. What those means were, and what were his pretensions, every person at the Meeting knew almost as well as he could tell them. They all knew of the late convulsion that had taken place, and of the efforts he had made to avert it. If he had been returned, in 1819, for Coventry, instead of being ousted by the rich ruffians who then opposed him against nine-tenths of the population of that town ; if that combination of rich ruffians, most of whom have since failed, and are now broken [applause and laughter]—if they had not arrayed themselves against the poor men of Coventry, and had an opportunity been given to him of sitting and speaking in Parliament, it was his conviction that the convulsion which had since taken place would not have occurred. It was true he had written to warn Ministers of the dangerous course

they were pursuing; but it was one thing to write that to Ministers, and quite another to tell it to the faces of those gentlemen. But he was told, that if he went amongst those gentlemen—those traders—and those other persons there; but he must not give them their proper name, as he ought not to bring the House into contempt, who would soon put him down. Would they, indeed? Well, he would wish at least that they would only try [applause]. If he had been there on the 2d of the present month of February, they would have had one man there who would expose them to this country, and show the folly and emptiness of their bragging, and who would have pointed out to them, paragraph by paragraph, what little prospect of relief or amelioration was contained in the Speech which they had put into the mouth of the King, or, to speak more respectfully, of the Speech which they were commissioned by the King to speak to the Parliament. He (Mr. C.) had written to them upon this subject, but they read what he wrote to them in private and alone; and whilst they were reading it, they looked about to see if any one was looking at them [a laugh]. But if he had been in the House of Commons—if he had been face to face with them, he would have told them those things which would have left them at a loss where to hide their heads; and which had not been told them by any of those persons who sat on the opposite side of the House—persons who were just as wise and just as honest as they were themselves [applause]. He would not hesitate to say, that the course which Mi-

nisters expressed their intention to adopt would be productive of increased misery—increased, though not as to quality, yet in a tenfold degree as to quantity. They had already inflicted half death upon the prosperity of the country, and he apprehended they would not stop until they had inflicted whole death upon it. What had been their conduct since the commencement of this very Session? They say it is their intention to withdraw all small paper-money from circulation; that they said was their intention. But did the people know that they would continue in that intention? that they would not alter it—and render legal, by some clause, a tender of all country trash, and all town trash too. But what astonished him most of all in the project of Ministers was, that although small notes were to be put an end to in England, small paper was still to be afloat in Scotland. Gold and silver were to circulate south of the Tweed, though north of it, it was supposed that paper would suffice. Did the Ministers think that the Scotch would not catch the *itch* of money-loving [a laugh]? Even Mr. Peter M'Culloch himself, who was so skilled in what they called political economy, would not he become infected with the itch for gold and silver [laughter]? This proposition that would create so great and disproportionate a difference between the circulations of the two countries, was, he thought, too monstrous a one even to enter into the heads of Ministers. One effect of it would be (though it yet remained to be seen if it would be done, for Ministers did not seem to know what to do) that whilst wheat was

ten shillings a bushel in Scotland, it might be had for three shillings and nine-pence a bushel in England. In such a state of the currency of the two countries if he owed a Scotchman one hundred pounds, he would take care to pay it in Edinburgh, as he could there exchange it for 33*l.* per cent., according to the currency of this country. The principles, in short, on which Ministers were acting for the regulation of the currency, and the whole system which they had recently adopted, would gradually, and one by one, strike down all the great and leading interests of the country. The tradesmen and manufacturers were now enduring the severest distress, and were justly loud in their complaints against the system. By the withdrawal of the small notes, and the substitution of gold and silver, the receipts of the fundholder would be affected, and by and by it would come to the turn of the agricultural interests to suffer, and the farmer and landlord would be involved in the general ruin. This led him to a declaration of Ministers since the commencement of the present Session, that no alteration would be proposed in the Corn Laws. Yet the free trade principles were to be encouraged. This free trade, which was so much lauded, was nothing short of a humbug. To remove the restrictions of trade, and to continue the Corn Laws, was to say to the people of England, " You may carry on a free trade with every country in every article, but in the most necessary of all—that of bread—but, whilst other nations have cheap, you must have

dear bread ; aye, dearer bread than the people of any other country !!" [Hear!] It was preposterous to suppose that free trade could be carried on at such a disadvantage to the industry of this country. If there was to be free trade (which he did not think by any means necessary), let it be free trade in every thing, and do not place the restriction where a restriction should last of all be placed, on an article of necessary consumption [cheers]. But independent of this consideration, he did not see the necessity of introducing these principles of free trade at all. When he saw the prosperity which this country arrived at—when he knew that she had enjoyed an eminence in commercial greatness over every other nation, not only for the last century, but for the last four or five centuries—indeed from the time of Cæsar, or at least from that of Edward III.—and when he saw that prosperity and that greatness were the result of a rigid restrictive system of policy—he was at a loss to see the wisdom of altering it [hear, hear !]. He would make it appear to the Meeting, what a shallow man William Huskisson was, who thought he could improve our condition by such an alteration [hear, hear !]. Our commercial greatness hitherto was established by treaties with other nations by England, which nations were, to be sure, all very affectionate and loving to one another. Each, however, endeavoured to secure its own interests ; and England, which always enjoyed a preponderance of power, made use of that power to secure to herself a superiority. She made treaties to be sure—but they were

treaties of this kind, "If you don't agree to so and so, as I direct, mind what will take place," &c. [hear, and a laugh.] England had always the master-hand in these negotiations, and she always used them for the security and establishment of the ascendancy of her commercial greatness. But now, it would seem, all this is to be at an end. But these free-trade principles were founded, forsooth, on the presumption, that both parties might be gainers. Now, how the d——l, he would be glad to know, could both nations win? Here W. Huskisson shows how shallow a man he is. This would appear from a simple illustration, which any one present might easily understand, that transactions in trade between individuals were very different from commercial transactions between nations. Suppose a butcher at Kensington kills an ox, the sirloin stands him in seven-pence a-pound; he sells it to me, who am a butcher also, at eightpence a-pound, and I again sell it to a gentleman at ninepence a-pound. There both the butchers gain, because they find a third party who is the consumer. But it will be asked—Will not this hold good between two nations also? I answer yes, if they can find a gentleman nation to buy of them [much laughter and cheers]. The two tradesmen gain, because they find a consumer who gives more than the cost of production in the first instance, and of sale in the second. But where is the third party in the case of two nations—of France and England, for instance? We export cottons and other manufactured articles, and they import wines and other articles into England, on terms of

perfect equality, importing and exporting as much as one nation wants from the other for its consumption and use [hear, hear]. This was the mistake, the fatal error of Ministers, and for this error should they be held responsible. If they were to have adopted such principles, which, he would repeat, were altogether unnecessary, they should have begun with a free trade in corn. Thousands and hundreds of thousands were now suffering the direst distress, in consequence of this folly of Ministers; and although there were so many in the House of Commons who knew what he said to be true, yet up came the 658 Members, and not one word was said of the true causes of the distress, although there was a debate of the full measure, of eighteen feet three inches and a quarter in length, and two inches and a quarter in breadth. Yet, having read the whole, he could safely assure the Meeting, that there was not one word of sense from the beginning to the end of the debate, with the exception of what had fallen from Mr. Hudson Gurney, whose speech was only three inches and a quarter in length of the whole measure [applause, and a laugh]. If he had a place in that House, he would expose the fallacy of their bragging prosperity. He had no apprehension or dread of going amongst them. There was no spell there—no enchantment [a voice from the crowd, "Yes, there is an enchantment"]. Well, he did not believe that there was, he placed no faith in any enchantment which should overcome men to prevent them from speaking out there. He had understood

that Col. Johnstone, who stood near him, was not in the House on the first night that Parliament met. All he would say was, that he disbelieved in those charms, and would pledge himself, that if he got into Parliament, he would, in the space of one month, make the ears of Ministers tingle in such a way as they had never tingled before [cheers]. Before he concluded, he begged to refer the Meeting to what had fallen from Mr. Prosperity Robinson in March 1824, when he was recommending those measures to the House of Commons, on which he pledged himself the permanent prosperity of the country rested, but which had been productive of such calamitous results. "See (said he) how happy we are—see the prosperity of the country, and see what we, the Parliament, have done for it." Let this be an answer to those slanderers (meaning us who disapproved of those measures, and insisted upon the necessity of Parliamentary Reform). His argument was this. The premises were, first, that the country was in a state of prosperity; 2dly, that it had been brought to this prosperity by the Small-note Bill! the conclusion from which was that Parliament had rescued the country from its distress, and raised her to this pitch of prosperity; and that we, the Reformers, were the slanderers for venturing to suspect that this very Parliament was not composed of the wisest men in the world [cheers]. Yet have we lately seen this very Mr. Robinson condemn those very measures which he then so strongly eulogized, and which he (Mr. C.) as strongly condemned. Yet this

delusion of the Ministers was not the worst of all. How many thousands of persons (who have since been ruined) believed in the statements of Ministers respecting the flourishing condition of the country? How many who did not know what was the real state of the nation, and who did not know or believe that Ministers would state anything that was not true, entered into wild and venturesome speculations which they would not otherwise have done [hear, hear!]—purchased Stock upon credit, and entered into a variety of enterprises into which the bragging of Ministers had allured them [hear, hear!]. Although many had been ruined by the rash speculations into which they had been thus induced to enter, the evil was not over; for the calamity yet would overtake others who had permitted themselves thus to be deluded. Up to so late a period did this delusion prevail, that even on the 8th of last June, at a public dinner given in Norwich, at which the Mayor presided, and which was attended by the Aldermen, and all the sages of the city; amongst the toasts given on that occasion was one to the following effect: "The Right Hon. F. Robinson, and Thanks to him for the prosperity which his measures have diffused throughout the country." This was the toast given only on the 8th last June, and they all knew what a very different aspect from one of prosperity. What a contrast to the sentiment contained in that toast, the City of Norwich presented now! The Mayor who gave that toast was since gazetted as a bankrupt [hear, hear, hear!]. He did not say this through any

disrespect to that gentleman, whose individual loss he regretted; he only mentioned it as an instance of the calamitous consequences which an undue confidence in the delusive measures and boasting representations of Ministers entailed upon the country. He had done his utmost to arrest the calamity—he had forewarned them of the calamity, and as his warning had been disregarded, although he deplored the evils that befel the country, yet, as distress did prevail, it was satisfactory to find that it only fixed its fangs in that quarter in which it ought [hear, hear!] In conclusion, he (Mr. C.) begged to thank the Meeting for the Resolutions to which they had come, and for the kind attention with which they had heard him. [Considerable applause followed the delivery of this address].

Mr. Hunt was here loudly called for, and with some difficulty procured standing-room in the well of the wagon, close to the Chair. He apologized for his late appearance at the Meeting, which was occasioned by his attendance at the Freemasons' Tavern, where the Meeting was appointed, by advertisement, to be held. He had hastened to Lincoln's-Inn-Fields, however, on learning that it had been adjourned there, and regretted that he had not arrived in time to hear the Resolutions and speeches, as he supposed there had been speeches and Resolutions [a slight laugh]. He had only heard a part of the speech of Mr. Cobbett, to which he had listened with the n of his talents that

he had done for the last fifteen or twenty years. What he had heard from Mr. Cobbett that day, convinced him that he was not only (what they knew him to be), a powerful writer, but a powerful speaker, and that he was as capable of giving a *viva voce* expression of his opinions as a written one [hear, hear]. He (Mr. H.) approved of the principles he had that day advanced, and would be glad to contribute his mite to the subscription proposed to be raised for sending him to Parliament [cries of Bravo! and cheers]. But they should not appear the bigoted disciples of Mr. Cobbett, but his sober and rational supporters on rational grounds. For this reason he wished to call the attention of the Meeting, and of Mr. Cobbett, to a pledge which he (Mr. C.) had made to the electors of Honiton in June, 1806, and repeated by him to the electors of Hampshire in the year 1812. If he would now repeat it, he (Mr. H.) would do all in his power to send him into Parliament. "I never, as long as I live, either for myself, or for, or through the means of, any one of my family, will receive, under any name, whether of salary, pension, or other, either directly or indirectly, one single farthing of the public money." This declaration he (Mr. H.) had himself made, when he stood a contested election for Westminster; he had made it also on the occasion of standing two contested elections for Bristol; and as it had been made by Mr. Cobbett, he now called on him to confirm it. It was the more necessary, as it was not men of talent that were so much wanted in Parliament, as

men in whom the people could place confidence ; and a declaration of this kind was, in his opinion, greatly calculated to conciliate that confidence [hear, hear]. To ensure it, however, it was necessary for the person seeking it, to pledge himself not to meddle with the public money. "That is the man for my money" [cheers]. As to Mr. Cobbett's talents, there could be no question ; they were, he would repeat, most powerful ; and they were of the greatest versatility also ; for he could write as well upon one subject as the other [murmurs of disapprobation]. He would say, that Mr. Cobbett was a man of transcendent talents, and if he would repeat the declaration he (Mr. H.) submitted, he should have the best support he could render, to place him in Parliament. But such a declaration was a necessary preliminary [renewed murmurs]. Mr. Hunt here turned to Colonel Johnstone, who stood beside him, and said, "I perceive Colonel Johnstone is very desirous that I should make a short speech. I should be glad to hear from him, who is so anxious to interrupt me, why it is that he who is in Parliament, does not advocate there those principles, which he comes here so strenuously to support [murmurs and applause]."

Colonel *Johnstone* here came forward and said, that he could not pretend to those talents which would qualify him to take an active part in the discussions of Parliament. His constituents had selected him to represent them, as they believed he would always give a conscientious vote in Parliament. That he had promised to do, and that he had always

done [cheers]. The situation of a Member of Parliament in addressing the House, was one often encompassed by considerable difficulties. So he felt it to be. It was because he thought that the talents of Mr. Cobbett were eminently qualified to render service to the public interests in Parliament, that he came forward on the present occasion to support him [applause]. Loud cries from all parts of the Meeting, "the pledge, the pledge," "Cobbett, the pledge."

Mr. *Cobbett* again came forward, and said, that what a man swore in 1806 was surely binding on him in 1826. It was the greatest act of self-degradation that a man could commit, to repeat an oath which he had already sworn. There his oath was, and there it would continue, as strongly binding on him now as then. He hoped, therefore, the Meeting would spare him so great a humiliation as that of calling upon him to repeat an oath which he had already sworn. This explanation was made without any expression of approbation or displeasure from the Meeting.

Colonel *Johnstone* then proposed a vote of thanks to Sir Thomas Beevor, for his conduct in the Chair.

Sir *Thomas Beevor*, Bart., in returning thanks, begged to explain to the Meeting, that the reason of his not meeting those gentlemen who were assembled at the Freemasons' Tavern was, that he made an effort to procure admission, but, from the crowded state of the Freemasons' Tavern, he found it impossible to reach the room. He regretted the disap-

pointment, but, under the circumstances, it was unavoidable. Those gentlemen who might be disposed to advance the subscription for placing Mr. Cobbett in Parliament, would be so good as to leave their subscriptions, as early as convenient, at 183, Fleet Street, and be careful to take a receipt for the amount at the time of leaving them. As the business of the day was now over, it only remained for him to dissolve the Meeting.—Accordingly, it quietly dispersed, at a quarter to four o'clock.

A SERMON!

DON'T start, Reader: it is a Sermon worth your reading. It is a Sermon by a *beneficed clergyman of the Church of England*; and while it does more honour to that Church than any production of any of its members, that I have ever read in my life, it could not, I hope, be read without feelings of shame by those of that body, who have so basely endeavoured to raise, amongst the uninformed part of the people, the hateful and disgraceful howl of "*no-popery*."—Not only the matter of the Sermon, but also the *time* and *place* of delivering it are worthy of notice, and are circumstances that add greatly to its intrinsic merit, and still more to the merit of the preacher. It

was, as the reader will see, preached at Appleby (the county town of Westmoreland), before the Judges, at the last Summer Assizes. Nothing more is necessary in the way of preface, except for me to declare, that, in the whole course of my life, I never extended the circulation of any publication with so much pleasure as that which I feel on the present occasion; to which let me add, that the Reverend Preacher is, personally, wholly unknown to me, and that I never even heard of his name before.

A Sermon, preached at Appleby on Friday, Aug. 12, 1825, before Sir John Bailey, and Sir John Hullock, His Majesty's Judges of Assize, on the Northern Circuit. By the Rev. C. Bird, A. M., Rector of High Hoyland, in the County of York.

"Think not that I am come to send peace on Earth; I came not to send peace, but a sword."—Matt. x. 34.

STRANGE consequence this to pronounce of the mission of *the Prince of Peace*, that he came to send a sword upon earth. Strange declaration, too, for a founder to give of his own institution! Men do not usually disparage their own projects by a prospectus of their evil consequences. If they offer you bread they do not call it a stone, nor if they hold out to you a fish do they term it a serpent. No, this is no hu-

man proceeding. Worldly wisdom is quite of another caste. Whatever be the essential properties and intrinsic value of their proposals, they set them off, at least, with all the superficial attractions and exterior embellishments of panegyric.

But *the ways of God are not our ways*. His are the ways of truth, candour, and simplicity; ours too frequently tortuous, artificial, and disingenuous. The Divine Author of our faith fore-saw, and did not dissemble, that his gospel, conceived as it was in the bosom of mercy, and breathing as it did nothing but a spirit of peace, should nevertheless, when dispensed by human hands, and interpreted by human passions, become an instrument of numberless cruelties and calamities. Had these distressing consequences overtaken his followers unprepared, they would, it is probable, have awokened their fears, and shaken their constancy; but when following upon the prophetical warning of their Lord, did but confirm their faith, when they saw the violence of their enemies, and the perverse zeal of their friends, bearing concurrent testimony to his truth; and even *the wind and the storm fulfilling his word*.

That the warning was not visionary and superfluous, the fate of the early Church of Christ but too clearly proved; when *brother delivered up the brother to death, and the father the child, and the children rose up against their parents, and caused them to be put to death*. Nor were the miseries of religious feuds limited to the primitive ages, and first centuries of the church, when the first converts suffered chiefly from

the pride and policy of their pagan adversaries. But, through many succeeding ages of intellectual and spiritual darkness, down to the very verge of the last century, did bigotry triumph, and persecution rage. The history of Christianity, some few halcyon days excepted, is little else than the history of the dissensions and combats of its opposing sects and parties, inflicting and enduring, as they alternately rose and fell, sufferings and tortures, for which Christianity blushes to have furnished even a pretext.

The progress of knowledge, and the more general diffusion of the genuine principles of the gospel, have, thank God! exploded in our times the sword and the rack as instruments of conversion, and persuasives to sanctity. There are no religious fraternities, either in Protestant or Catholic Europe, of sufficient influence, even if they should conceive the idea, to instigate Christian princes to avail themselves of the bigotry of their subjects, to carry war and desolation into the territories of an unoffending neighbour, on the impious plea of extirpating heresy, and fighting the battles of the God of Hosts.

Would to God that with the avowed purpose, the secret spirit also of persecution were extinct in every Christian heart! That men, who name the sacred name of Christ, were so intimately conversant, so thoroughly impressed, not with the unfathomable mysteries and insoluble controversies, but with the gentle, charitable, peace-inspiring graces of Christianity, as to have exterminated those passions, from which persecution derives its nutriment, and secretes its venom.

Would to God that, now men are too refined to catechise on the rack, and proselytise on the fagot, they had also learned of *Him who is meek and lowly in heart*, to subdue that impatience of contradiction, that dogmatism of opinion, that insolence of office, that appetite for domineering over the very thoughts of their fellows, which have prompted tyrants and slaves, hypocrites and their dupes, in all past times, to destroy the peace of so many families, and to deluge so many kingdoms with blood.

But that this evil spirit is not exorcised from Christendom, or finally laid in the oblivious deep, even among ourselves, is but too clearly to be inferred from the manner in which we have recently met the claims of our fellow Christians of the Romish Church. Many, it hence appears, who would shudder at the idea of stretching the limbs, or lighting the pile, have no scruple—so deceitful is the heart of man—to harass the mind and torture the feelings of their religious opponents. While they declaim against violence and persecution, they traduce, without reserve or compunction, the characters, depress the fortunes, and abridge the civil privileges of those whom they cannot gain by their influence, or convince by their argument.

Into the political question connected with this subject, it is not my intention to enter. I leave it to the impartial and mature deliberations of men better qualified by their profession and talents to decide wisely, and to decide with authority. But I trust it will not be considered matter quite foreign to the occasion, or at least to the times, to investigate what, as

Christians, we may conscientiously do, or leave undone, in the progress of this much agitated and still undecided question.

In discussing this point, it is unnecessary to enter into any metaphysical speculations on the nature and grounds of human duty. We proceed immediately to the fountain of truth, and from that source draw the waters of life pure and uncontaminated: for if we are sincerely desirous of learning *how to walk and to please God*, to whom should we go but to *Him who hath the words of eternal life?* This supreme and only infallible head of his church, when he spoke of the primary effect and event of his mission, predicted that he was sending a sword; but when he spoke of its purpose, design, and ultimate success, assures us that *he came not to condemn or judge the world, but that the world through him might be saved.* In the furtherance of this grand object of saving the world, he declares against all force, or show, even of compulsion and menace. He would not do evil that good might come, however great that good might be. When his disciples, moved by a mistaken zeal, would have recommended a proceeding of severity against an unbelieving community, he turned and rebuked them—*Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of. For the Son of Man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save them.*

Again he says, *My kingdom is not of this world, otherwise would my servants fight; but now is my kingdom not of this world;* of which the obvious inference is, that his servants should not *fight for his religion, or the extension of his kingdom.* He proceeds fur-

ther, and as the author of a new religion, he disclaims all pretension to apportion men's shares of the possessions and privileges of this world. *Who made me a divider over you?* And, last of all, to show that we should not only deal out to men of all religious denominations, an equal measure of *justice* and *equity*, but also of *generosity* and *charity*, he introduces the Samaritan, showing compassion to the Jew, who *had fallen among thieves*; divided as these two sects were by an acrimony of hatred, as great as the essential difference of their respective creeds was inconsiderable.

Such is the spirit, such the principles of conduct, which the Divine Author of our faith prescribes. Let not any one, therefore, in defiance of such authority, imagine that he shall *do God service*, and his Saviour honour; or in any way advance the cause of religion, or the interests of humanity, by any species of persecution, positive or negative: whether it affects the body or the mind; whether it takes away what is already possessed, or withholds what ought to be granted; for the law of Christ is infringed, and his spirit resisted, whenever we render a man's worldly condition worse, or refuse to make it better, on account of his religious persuasion.

Shall we then suffer an adverse and erroneous creed to make its way unresisted? Certainly not. Such a conduct would be a dereliction of our Christian duty in the other extreme. We ought *always to be ready to give a reason for our own faith to him that asketh us*, and *to resist with meekness those that oppose themselves*. But

let us take care that our resistance be characterized with both reason and meekness. Let us, first of all, accurately ascertain what the tenets of our opponents really are, and expose them, not by the dim reflection of our own systems, but by those direct beams of truth which emanate from the Father of Lights. Nor let us be in haste to do this, till we are sure we can do it in such spirit and temper, as may convince both them and our own conscience, that we are not labouring for the purpose of acquiring the strength and confidence of numbers for our own party, or the acclamations of a triumph for ourselves; but that our hearts' desire is to convert the wanderer *from the error of his ways, and to save his soul from death*.

If this mode of resisting the progress of religious delusion does not succeed, our own personal experience and the history of our own country might serve to convince us of the futility of any other. It is in vain that our Statute Book has been disgraced by edicts more ingeniously cruel and absurdly oppressive than ever disgraced the codes of Imperial or Papal Rome. It is in vain that parents were compelled to surrender the nurture and education of their children, and the child bribed to rebel against his parents, to expel them from their homes, and consign them and their helpless families to beggary and famine. In vain have we attainted as a traitor the minister for performing at the altar the established offices of his religion, and branded as a felon the pious devotee who assisted at the solemn service. You have beaten them down to the earth, indeed,

but they have risen up from it with Antæan energy and hydra-like fecundity. They sprung up from your ungenerous oppression, with renovated vigour and multiplied numbers to shame and amaze you. These sanguinary decrees (for laws they were not, if law has indeed "her seat in the bosom of God, and her voice be the harmony of the world") these decrees are rescinded, and milder restrictions have been substituted in their place. But being conceived in the same spirit, their issue, though less pernicious, will not be more fortunate. They serve no other purpose, and never can, but to inflame their zeal, and to rivet their affections more fondly and closely to a faith, which they conceive to be unfairly assailed, and for which they are obliged to make daily sacrifices of earthly emoluments and honours. Just in the same proportion are they alienated from your faith, by the abettors of which they conceive themselves unkindly treated, and are but too ready to proclaim a sense of their wrongs by a conduct equally pernicious to you and to themselves. After every fresh legislative enactment, there succeeds a temporary calm. But the fire sleeps: it is not extinguished. Under a surface of ashes it is collecting fresh strength, to burst forth at some ill-omened hour, when you shall have no leisure either to direct its progress, or repress its fury. Hopeless is the attempt to compress such a volatile and elastic element by brute force, or subdue its spirit by military menaces. While the disease prevails, the symptoms will show themselves. Men, indeed, are not to be coerced and menaced

out of their religious prepossessions and affections. Were they base enough, under the influence of fear, to betray the friends of their childhood, and apostatize from the faith of their forefathers, they are not bold enough to barter for personal security and civil immunities all those principles, with which in their minds is associated every thing that is lovely and of good report, every thing that enables them to bear the calamities of a precarious life resignedly, and opens to them a prospect of a more durable existence, *where the wicked cease from troubling, and the weary are at rest.* It is to commit the ant in battle with the elephant, to array human penalties and human terrors, still more petty prohibitions and vexatious disqualifications, against those mighty passions with which religion fortifies the soul. They reply to all the thunders of your edicts, and the brandishing of your arms, *We fear not man who killeth the body, and after that hath no more that he can do; but we fear Him who can destroy both body and soul in hell.* We say unto you, we fear him. But there is no particular in which we do so much injustice to our brethren of the Romish communion, and eventually to ourselves, as by misrepresentation of their tenets and principles. I have already had occasion to say that we ought to begin the controversy by ascertaining accurately their tenets—but not from the statement of their adversaries; not from the musty records of ancient days; but from their own acknowledged formularies of faith, and the avowed belief of living men.

It is alleged indeed that the Ro-

man Catholic is unchanged ; but it is alleged in defiance of common sense, and actual observation. For what can be more changed or contrasted than the condition and influence of the Pope seven centuries ago, when an English monarch (unworthy indeed of the name,) was doing homage to him upon his knees for his kingdom ; and in our times, when a successor in the Papal chair was suing to our monarch for personal protection and the preservation of his patrimony. But if his influence and authority over the kings and people of Christendom were the same now as in the dark ages, such circumstances and contrasts could not arise. The authority of the Pope, like the authority of other men over their fellows, was an authority of opinion. Those opinions, on which his spiritual tyranny rested, are now gone both in Protestant and Catholic Europe, and they are gone for ever.

But if we do not succeed in showing the Roman Church to be formidable, we endeavour to make it odious. We charge upon its members that they keep no faith with heretics, that they can dispense with the obligation of oaths ; nay, that their Pope, and even a simple priest can forgive sins, unrepented sins—sins however heinous—and even grant indulgences for future transgressions at a stipulated price. That these impious pretensions have been made, and even carried into practice in remote ages, is unquestionable ; but it is equally true that in all modern times they have been renounced by the public and authentic acts of the highest Catholic authorities ; and, what is more, by the uniform practice

both of communities and individuals.

After attributing to them doctrines which they disavow, the next disingenuous artifice is to caricature those which they do maintain. In this spirit we call their invocation of saints, Idolatry ; their doctrine of transubstantiation and adoration of the host, Blasphemy. We call the head of their church Anti-Christ, the Man of sin, and names of still deeper turpitude. And after thus ascribing to him the malignity of the Spirit of Evil, we invest him with some of the attributes of Omnipotency ; and ascribe to him the faculty of subverting the faith, and changing the religious opinions of the whole Catholic world, by the breath of his lips, and a turn of his pen. That men of education should fix upon them such imputations, not only groundless but improbable, is more to be wondered at, than that those who follow them either through ignorance or interest, should very sedulously and seriously repeat them. For when all the several ideas of idolatry, blasphemy, perjury, and disloyalty are collected into one complex idea, and denominated Popery, no wonder that the unread, unthinking populace should join in one universal cry against a religion *every where spoken against*, and should be ready to expel from society all who profess it, and all who claim for its professors a fair hearing and equal justice.

But of all the charges against the Roman Catholics, that which is most obnoxious, is, that they yield a *divided allegiance*, at all times, and that on particular emergencies the portion of obedience due to their temporal mo-

narchs, may be dispensed with by their spiritual sovereign !

The Roman Catholics do indeed yield a divided allegiance. So do Protestants yield a divided allegiance to their temporal monarchs. They render to Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's, and to God the things that are God's. Both Romanists and Protestants, if they are conscientious, fear God and honour the king ; but whenever these claims are conflicting, both one and the other think it their duty to obey God rather than man. The limits of those two duties are defined in the same words, and by the same authority to each ; with this difference, that the Romanists concede the interpretation of the scriptural precept to the Pope and the Church ; we reserve that as the privilege of private judgment. As to the power of dispensing with the duty of loyalty, it is one of those obsolete and antiquated pretensions, which if not formally abrogated, has long fallen into desuetude ; but which, nevertheless, we rake up from the oblivious dust under which it lay, and insist upon its actual validity, in defiance of all their protestations, and all our own experience. Thus have their fathers eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge. We visit the sins of the fathers upon the children unto many generations. We see before our eyes that the Roman Catholics, who live among us, are devout, virtuous, loyal, mindful of their oaths and moral duties, as men of other sects, and yet we persist in calling them in the mass hypocritical, idolatrous, perjured, and incapable of private or public patriotism. But surely men who bring this railing accusation against the

brethren, without any examination into its truth, who take for proved every disgraceful imputation, however improbable and unnatural, incur a very serious responsibility, not to say a very heavy guilt.

What should we say of those venerable judges of the land, if they decided on the property, characters, and lives of their fellow-creatures upon common rumour and hearsay evidence, or even upon the solemn testimony of one party alone ? Would their high office and their higher characters screen them from the reproach of good men, and the compunctions visitings of their own consciences ? Yet of such iniquity, but in a much more momentous case, are all those guilty who undertake to pronounce on the fates and fortunes of a great proportion of the empire, and on the happiness and peace of the whole, without hearing with patience and weighing with impartiality, the arguments and evidence of the party accused. To condemn unheard, is to condemn iniquitously, although the sentence may be merited.

But a candid investigation of the principles of the Roman Catholics would discover, amidst the fundamental and essential verities of our common faith, many superfluous and unprofitable doctrines ; some indeed superstitious and unscriptural,* but none, I will ven-

* No doctrine can be considered as superstitious, nor can any practice be thought superfluous, which is founded on the Sacred Scriptures, or the constant tradition of the universal church ; and if any opinions or practices, contrary to these rules, have been introduced in any part of the Catholic world, they are the abuses arising from national characters, not the effects of piety sanctioned by the Catholic Church.—B. C. A.

ture to assert, that disqualify them for acting their part in society, honourably and discreetly, whether in a public or private situation. Their errors it is our duty to combat, not by compulsion or menace, but by bringing to bear upon them the improved philosophy of the age, and more especially the clear, unclouded blaze of the Gospel. But to ensure a triumph over their errors, or to deserve it, we must persuade them by the arguments of kindness, and confound them by the unanswerable syllogisms of charity. Prove to them the evangelical tenor of your faith, by the purity of your principles, and the liberality of your conduct. Men who cannot reason, can feel; and if they cannot analyse your dialectics, they will love and imitate your practice.

Exact uniformity of faith, among all diversities of understandings, on matters so abstruse and comprehensive as theology, is not attainable. It is folly to expect it. But there is another and *more excellent way*, of which an inspired Apostle speaks, *a bond of perfectness*, capable, and at some future day, *destined* to unite the several members of the Christian Church in one concordant and harmonious body. This bond is charity. This was the remedy St. Paul prescribed, as fit to compose the distractions of the infant church. Even he did not undertake to define his doctrines with such luminous precision, and self-evident simplicity, as to preclude diversity of conception, and erroneousness of interpretation, to faculties various and weak as ours. He, therefore, advised his spiritual children to think humbly of that knowledge which at best is

imperfect, and which *will be done away*; and even to postpone the higher graces of faith and hope, to that last, best fruit of the Spirit, charity. Be it the office of the ministers and members of our venerable establishment, to lead the van of that holy and heavenly host, on whose banner is read, *On earth peace, good-will to man, the weapons of whose warfare are not carnal but spiritual*. We have nothing to fear from the rivalry of any religious sect in these kingdoms. The ampleness of our endowments; the high rank and higher character of our dignitaries: the piety and learning of our ministers and people leave us nothing to apprehend from human competition. But let us not forget that all these external advantages avail us nothing, except we have *the God of Jacob for our defender, and our trust be in the Lord our God*. In every conflict, religious ones more especially, *the race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong, but to him who contends in the genuine armour of God, having on the breast-plate of righteousness, and his feet shod with the preparation of the gospel of peace*.

Vain is our wealth, vain our learning, vainer still our rank and influence in the state, if these gifts are not tempered and sanctified by humility, moderation, and charity. Exterior distinctions in every religious establishment, if not held in subordination to the Almighty's will, and used in subservience to His glory, are worse than vain. They corrupt and they destroy. But why this severity of reproach? Why this bitterness of recrimination among Christian sects? Why this haste to pass

judgment and do execution on our fellows, and anticipate the doom of Him who judgeth righteous judgment? While we are tearing and trampling each other, do we forget that the day is fast approaching, when every man's work shall be made manifest, and the fire shall try it, and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour? Hushed, then, will be the voice of the disputant, and the clamour of the factious, and the shout of the triumphant, and the lament of the vanquished. Their voices only will be heard breathing the accents of praise, and hymning the gratulations of mutual joy (to whatever religious community they belonged), who have laid their work on the *one sure foundation of Jesus Christ*; and who have taken heed to build thereupon *not wood or hay or stubble*, the rank growth of factious zeal, and uncharitable knowledge, which the fire shall in a moment consume; but upon that foundation of their faith have *laid gold and silver and precious stones*, the solid, brilliant, imperishable productions of piety and charity; for they shall pass through the furnace with undiminished substance, and unsullied brightness, and shall shine as stars for ever in the presence of the Lord, and the firmament of his glory.

FREE-TRADE PROJECT.

THE following TREATIES have been laid before Parliament. They are worthy of great attention; and

we shall have hereafter to refer to them as the source of infinite mischief and misery to England.

CONVENTION OF COMMERCE

Between His Majesty and the Most Christian King, together with two additional Articles therenunto annexed. Signed at London, January 26, 1826.

In the Name of the Most Holy Trinity.

His Majesty the King of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland on the one part, and his Majesty the King of France and Navarre on the other part, being equally animated by the desire of facilitating the commercial intercourse between their respective subjects, and being persuaded that nothing can more contribute to the fulfilment of their mutual wishes in this respect, than to simplify and equalize the regulations which are now in force relative to the navigation of both kingdoms, by the reciprocal abrogation of all discriminating duties levied upon the vessels of either of the two nations in the ports of the other, whether under the head of duties of tonnage, harbour, light-house, pilotage, and others of the same description, or in the shape of increased duties upon goods on account of their being imported or exported in other than national vessels; have named as their Plenipotentiaries to conclude a convention for this purpose—that is to say,

His Majesty the King of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Honourable George Canning, a Member of His said Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, and His said Majesty's principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and the Right Honourable William Huskisson, a Member of His said Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council, a Member of Parliament, President of the Committee of Privy Council for Affairs of Trade and

Foreign Plantations, and Treasurer of His said Majesty's Navy:

And His Majesty the King of France and Navarre, the Prince Jules, Count de Polignac, a Peer of France, Marechal-de-Camp of his Most Christian Majesty's Forces, Knight of the Royal and Military Order of St. Louis, Officer of the Royal Order of the Legion of Honour, Grand Cross of the Order of St. Maurice of Sardinia, Aide-de-Camp of his Most Christian Majesty, and his Ambassador at the Court of His Britannic Majesty;

Who, after having communicated to each other their respective full powers, found to be in due and proper form, have agreed upon and concluded the following articles:—

ARTICLE I.

From and after the fifth of April of the present year, French vessels, coming from or departing for the ports of France, or, if in ballast, coming from or departing for any place, shall not be subject, in the ports of the United Kingdom, either on entering into or departing from the same, to any higher duties of tonnage, harbour, light-house, pilotage, quarantine, or other similar or corresponding duties, of whatever nature or under whatever denomination, than those to which British vessels, in respect of the same voyages, are or may be subject, on entering into or departing from such ports: and, reciprocally, from and after the same period, British vessels coming from or departing for the ports of the United Kingdom, or, if in ballast, coming from or departing for any place, shall not be subject, in the ports of France, either on entering into or departing from the same, to any higher duties of tonnage, harbour, light-house, pilotage, quarantine, or other similar or corresponding duties, of whatever nature, or under whatever denominations, than those to which French vessels, in respect of the same voyages, are or may be subject on en-

tering into or departing from such ports; whether such duties are collected separately, or are consolidated in one and the same duty; His Most Christian Majesty reserving to himself to regulate the amount of such duty or duties in France, according to the rate at which they are or may be established in the United Kingdom: at the same time, with the view of diminishing the burdens imposed upon the navigation of the two countries, his Most Christian Majesty will always be disposed to reduce the amount of the said burdens in France, in proportion to any reduction which may hereafter be made of those now levied in the ports of the United Kingdom.

ARTICLE II.

Goods, wares, and merchandise, which can or may be legally imported into the ports of the United Kingdom from the ports of France, if so imported in French vessels, shall be subject to no higher duties than if imported in British vessels, and, reciprocally, goods, wares, and merchandise, which can or may be legally imported into the ports of France, from the ports of the United Kingdom, if so imported in British vessels, shall be subject to no higher duties than if imported in French vessels. The produce of Asia, Africa, and America, not being allowed to be imported from the said countries nor from any other, in French vessels, nor from France in French, British, or any other vessels, into the ports of the United Kingdom, for home consumption, but only for warehousing and re-exportation, his Most Christian Majesty reserves to himself to direct that, in like manner, the produce of Asia, Africa, and America, shall not be imported from the said countries, nor from any other, in British vessels, nor from the United Kingdom in British, French, or any other vessels, into the ports of France, for the consumption of that kingdom, but only for warehousing and re-exportation.

With regard to the productions of the countries of Europe, it is understood between the high contracting parties, that such productions shall not be imported in British ships into France for the consumption of that kingdom, unless such ships shall have been laden therewith in some port of the United Kingdom; and that His Britannic Majesty may adopt, if he shall think fit, some corresponding restrictive measure, with regard to the productions of the countries of Europe imported into the ports of the United Kingdom in French vessels: the high contracting parties reserving, however, to themselves the power of making, by mutual consent, such relaxations in the strict execution of the present article as they may think useful to the respective interests of the two countries, upon the principle of mutual concessions, affording each to the other reciprocal or equivalent advantages.

ARTICLE III.

All goods, wares, and merchandise, which can or may be legally exported from the ports of either of the two countries, shall, on their export, pay the same duties of exportation, whether the exportation of such goods, wares, and merchandise, be made in British or in French vessels, provided the said vessels proceed, respectively, direct from the ports of the one country to those of the other. And all the said goods, wares, and merchandise, so exported in British or French vessels, shall be reciprocally entitled to the same bounties, drawbacks, and other allowances of the same nature, which are granted by the regulations of each country respectively.

ARTICLE IV.

It is mutually agreed between the high contracting parties, that in the intercourse of navigation between their two countries, the vessels of any third Power shall, in no case, obtain more favourable conditions

than those stipulated in the present convention in favour of British and French vessels.

ARTICLE V.

The fishing-boats of either of the two countries, which may be forced by stress of weather to seek shelter in the ports or on the coast of the other country, shall not be subject to any duties or port charges of any description whatsoever; provided the said boats, when so driven in by stress of weather, shall not discharge or receive on board any cargo, or portion of cargo, in the ports or on the parts of the coast where they shall have sought shelter.

ARTICLE VI.

It is agreed that the provisions of the present convention between the high contracting parties shall be reciprocally extended and in force, in all the possessions subject to their respective dominion in Europe.

ARTICLE VII.

The present convention shall be in force for the term of ten years, from the 5th of April of the present year; and further, until the end of twelve months after either of the high contracting parties shall have given notice to the other of its intention to terminate its operation; each of the high contracting parties reserving to itself the right of giving such notice to the other, at the end of the said term of ten years: and it is agreed between them, that, at the end of the twelve months' extension agreed to on both sides, this convention, and all the stipulations thereof, shall altogether cease and determine.

ARTICLE VIII.

The present convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged in London, within the space of one month, or sooner if possible.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed

the same, and have affixed thereto the seals of their arms.

Done at London, the twenty-sixth day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty-six.

(L.S.) GEORGE CANNING..

(L.S.) WILLIAM HUSKISSON.

(L.S.) Le Prince de POLIGNAC.

(To be continued.)

MARKETS.

Average Prices of CORN through-out ENGLAND, for the week ending January 28.

Per Quarter.

	s. d.		s. d.
Wheat ..	61 4	Oats	24 5
Rye	48 8	Beans ...	40 2
Barley ..	38 1	Pease ...	43 9

Total Quantity of Corn returned as Sold in the Maritime Districts, for the Week ended January 28.

Qrs	Qrs,
Wheat ..	39,426
Rye	202
Barley ..	38,368

Qrs	Qrs,
Oats	25,161
Beans ...	3,287
Pease ...	1,401

Corn Exchange, Mark Lane.

Quantities and Prices of British Corn, &c. sold and delivered in this Market, during the week ended Saturday, January 28.

Qrs. £. s. d. s. d.

Wheat ..	4,943	for 15,740	17	7	Average, 63	8
Barley ..	4,356	..	8,437	3	9.....	38 8
Oats ..	12,504	..	17,323	3	0.....	27 8
Rye	32	68	0	1.....	42 6
Beans ..	1,725	...	3,514	18	9.....	40 9
Pease ..	1,149	...	2,618	10	4.....	45 6

Friday, Feb. 3.—There are tolerably good supplies of most kinds of Grain this week. There has been a little trade for superfine Wheat, at Monday's prices; other sorts, however, are extremely dull. In Barley, Beans, and Pease, no alteration from Monday. Oats meet a heavy trade, at rather less prices than at the beginning of the week.

Monday, Feb. 6.—In the course of the preceding week the arrivals of all sorts of Grain were moderate, except of Oats, the quantity of which was again considerable. This morning the supplies fresh at market consist chiefly of fair quantities of Wheat, Barley, Beans, and Pease, from Essex and Kent; the contrary state of the wind keeping out supplies from more distant parts. Although fine Wheat is scarce, yet the reluctance of our Millers to purchase is so great, that every sort may be quoted 1s. to 2s. per qr. cheaper than last Monday, unless for a picked sample or two.

Malting Barley has declined in value full 1s. per qr. Grinding samples of good quality are not reported lower, but the trade is very dull. Beans are the turn dearer. There are so many Foreign White Pease at market, that this article is excessively dull, and may be quoted 2s. to 3s. lower than last week. Grey Pease are also reduced 1s. per qr. The Oat Trade continues in a very slack state, and unless for samples of fine colour, may be reported 1s. per qr. lower than this day se'nnight. The top price of Flour is not altered, but all other sorts are lower.

Price on board Ship, as under.

Flour, per sack	55s. — 60s.
— Seconds	52s. — 54s.
— North Country ..	45s. — 50s.